

lives on the line to save so many. These valiant servicemembers like Senior Airman Alexis Sanchez epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Third Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Senior Airman Alexis Sanchez of the 60th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for her sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING STEVE LEONARD

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of a great community leader and a dear friend to so many of us here in Indiana's Sixth Congressional District, Steve Leonard.

A native of Greenfield, Steve has been an active member of our community and his leadership will be forever missed. Steve retired from a nearly 40-year career at Eli Lilly a few years ago, and, until his passing, served as the Center Township Trustee and Chairman of the Hancock County Republican Party.

Anyone who had the pleasure of knowing Steve could tell of a friendship with a truly honorable, decent man whose kindness and generosity will not soon be forgotten. Even throughout his health battle, Steve never failed to put others first and remained a dependable leader who fulfilled his responsibilities with dignity and grace.

Steve's example will serve as a blessing to his family and continue to inspire those of us who had the honor of calling him a friend. Our prayers continue to be with Steve's family; his wife, Janet; sons, Steven and Bryan; and daughter, Kimberly.

It is my pleasure to honor my friend, Steve Leonard.

CONGRATULATING BARBARA MORRIS-LENT

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barbara Morris-Lent.

Barbara's late husband, Norman F. Lent, served as a member of this body from 1971 to 1993. Barbara is a past President of the Republican Congressional Spouse Club and has served faithfully as Secretary-Treasurer for over 30 years.

Barbara worked for Verizon until her recent retirement and has served on the board of the Congressional Institute for many years. Barbara has also played a major role in the Auxiliary of the Former Members Association on behalf of the Republican Congressional Spouse Club, for which we are very grateful.

I thank Barbara for all her hard work and dedication to the Club. Her many years of service will fondly be remembered by all who have had the pleasure of working alongside her to help make this institution all it can be.

RECOGNIZING BEXAR COUNTY JUDGE NELSON W. WOLFF

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Bexar County Judge Nelson W. Wolff and his more than half a century of service to the City of San Antonio and Bexar County. Judge Wolff will step down from his position at the end of this year. I would like to congratulate him on a highly distinguished career and wish him the very best in the next chapter of his life.

Judge Wolff was first elected to public office in 1971 when he won a seat in the Texas House of Representatives. He would then be elected to the Texas Senate and the San Antonio City Council before serving as Mayor of San Antonio from 1991 to 1995. He was appointed Bexar County Judge in 2001, a position he would be elected to five times.

Throughout his decades in public service, Judge Wolff has spearheaded efforts to strengthen economic and workforce development, improve public services, invest in public education, and build out critical infrastructure. He helped found our nation's first all-digital public library, established a \$1 million fund to spur growth in the local tech sector, and paved the way for the San Antonio Missions to receive a UNESCO designation.

As Bexar County Judge, Judge Wolff has been a tireless advocate for public safety. He has paired strong investments in law enforcement with commonsense criminal justice reforms aimed at helping those with mental health and drug dependency issues.

On behalf of the 28th District of Texas, I would like to congratulate Judge Wolff once again on a well-deserved retirement and thank him for his decades of service. It is an honor to call him not only a colleague, but a friend. I wish Judge Wolff, his wife Tracy, and his six children all the best in the next chapter of his life.

HONORING SENIOR AIRMAN KIMBERLY HEISER UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Senior Airman Kimberly Heiser of the 60th Air Mobility Wing upon receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross for her service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. She exemplifies the best of America, and her tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, the servicemembers of the 60th Air Mobility Wing met a challenge of colossal scale when they played a pivotal role in completing the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. This command was critical in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in known history, Operation Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. The 60th Air Mobil-

ity Wing directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated at Travis Air Force Base.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed by the 60th Air Mobility Wing. They put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many. These valiant servicemembers like Senior Airman Kimberly Heiser epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Third Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Senior Airman Kimberly Heiser of the 60th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for her sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING JUDGE RICHARD BALL UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BENCH

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, it is with the utmost appreciation for his distinguished career and life of service that I rise today to honor Judge Richard Ball of East Lansing. After three decades on the bench and nearly 20 years of service in the Michigan National Guard, I extend my congratulations to Judge Ball on his retirement and express my deep gratitude to him for his tireless efforts to preserve and promote justice and equality in Michigan, particularly in the veteran community.

Judge Ball, a proud graduate of Michigan State University and Thomas Cooley Law School, began dedicating himself to the public good shortly after completing his undergraduate degree in 1972, when he joined the Michigan National Guard. During his 19 years with the Guard, he completed law school and began working in private practice, and also rose to the rank of Major, serving as a Staff Judge Advocate General. In 1993, Judge Ball was elected to the East Lansing 54B Circuit Court, where he has served for nearly 30 years.

As a veteran himself, Judge Ball was quick to recognize that military life has many lasting effects on those who serve, and in 2013 he began serving as the presiding judge for the Ingham County Veterans Treatment Court. This model specialty court is a program that promotes sobriety, recovery, and stability for veterans by coordinating treatment and combining it with accountability based on the veteran's specific needs. During his time on the bench, this program has provided direct services for nearly 250 local veterans, indirect services for dozens more, and sports a remarkable graduation rate of 82 percent.

In his nearly 50 years of public and community service, Judge Ball has been a beacon of light for so many in the veteran community. His unshakable belief in the principles of fairness, justice, and compassion have served as